

**Administration on Aging
and
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

Aging and Disability Resource Center Grant Program

Organization Name: Maine Department of Human Services, Bureau of Elder and Adult Services

Project Title: Maine Resource Network

Total Project Period: 9/30/2003 – 9/29/2006

Total Award Amount: \$767,205

Project Contact: Christine Gianopoulos, (207) 287-9200

Project's Overall Design:

Building on the state's current statewide pre-admission assessment program and the recommendations of the Maine Olmstead Workgroup for Community-based Living the Bureau of Elder and Adult Services will: work with three community coalitions to test methods to streamline consumer access to long term supports; establish within the current long term support assessment process for adults of all ages the means to improve person-centered service planning for the targeted populations; enhance the interface between the state's automated Medicaid financial and medical eligibility systems in order to reduce delays in implementing services; implement referral and follow-up protocols to improve service coordination and ensure more effective service access; utilize data concerning unmet long term support needs to redesign programs to accommodate more consumers using current resources; evaluate Resource Center results to inform the process of merging the two state departments responsible for the organization and delivery of long term support services; and to replicate the process statewide. Resource Center funds will be used to enhance existing automated Medicaid eligibility tools and to assess the feasibility of a web-based Medicaid application process to improve "real time" interface.

Target Population:

- Year One – Persons 60 and older
- Year Two and Three – Persons 60 and older and adults with mental health and addiction disorders, brain injury, developmental disabilities, and cognitive impairments.
- Maine intends to serve all populations by the end of year one.

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Develop a cohesive network of local and state resources at the community level that communicate effectively to assist adults of all ages and incomes seeking long term support
- Enhance management information systems and Medicaid level of care and financial application procedures to allow for more timely, user-friendly access
- Revise pre-admission assessment tool so that it can be used to develop comprehensive service plans based on informed choice and consumer preference
- Implement coordination and linkage protocols at the state and local level to support ongoing service coordination for target populations
- Establish a governance and evaluation structure

Involvement of Community Based Organizations and Other Stakeholders:

- Advisory Committee: Three groups will fulfill the advisory committee function: a project Steering Committee composed of representatives of the local coalitions, statewide partners, and other state agencies will have a primary role in problem analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation design; the Person-Centered Services and Access Technical Assistance Groups of Maine's Real Choice Systems Change grant will monitor the project to ensure it aligns with other systems change goals; the Legislature's Long-term Care Oversight Committee, which includes legislative, consumer and provider representation, will provide input and guidance.
- Partners: Key partners will be the local community coalitions, Brain Injury Association, Alzheimer's Association, Goold Health Systems Assessing Agency, Elder Independence of Maine, Joint Advisory Committee on Select Services for Older Persons, Developmental Disabilities Council, Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services and the Bureaus of Medical Services (Medicaid) and Family Independence within the Department of Human Services.